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General Assembly

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International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Matters relating to activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in 2016

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.4/70/L.9/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.4/70/L.9/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide that the activities listed in paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/C.4/70/L.9/Rev.1 shall be carried out under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in 2016 with the budget that had been allocated to those activities for 2015.

II. Relationship of the requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

2. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 and section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

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III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Pursuant to operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the following activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Application would take place in 2016:

(a) United Nations/Costa Rica Workshop on Human Space Technology;

(b) United Nations/South Africa Symposium on Basic Space Technology;

(c) United Nations/Kenya Workshop on Space Technology and Applications for Wildlife Management and Protecting Biodiversity;

(d) United Nations/Islamic Republic of Iran Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Dust Storm and Drought Monitoring in the Middle East Region.

4. The activities would entail additional requirements in the amount of $197,800, as detailed in paragraph 7 below.

IV. Modifications required to the number of outputs of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

5. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 indicates the delivery of 11 outputs under paragraph 6.19 (c) (ii): "workshops, seminars, training courses and meetings of experts for participants from developing countries, in particular professional women, on the priority thematic areas of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (11)".

6. Pursuant to operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, the number of outputs will increase by the four requested activities to 15 outputs in total.

V. Financial implications of the proposal

7. Additional resources in the amount of $197,800 for 2016 under section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, would be required under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 to implement the activities, which includes:

(a) Travel costs for one staff member who will travel to the four activities to manage programmatic and logistical needs;

(b) Travel costs for the participants.

(United States dollars)

Section 6. Peaceful uses of outer space	*Total requirements 2016-2017*
Travel of staff	17 800
Grants and contributions	180 000
Total, section 6	**197 800**

VI. Potential for absorption

8. No provisions have been made under section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 to cover the estimated requirements, and it is not anticipated that those requirements could be accommodated within the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The adoption by the General Assembly of draft resolution A/C.4/70/L.9/Rev.1 would therefore entail additional requirements of $197,800 under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

VII. Contingency fund

9. It may be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures were proposed that exceeded the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VIII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

10. **Should draft resolution A/C.4/70/L.9/Rev.1 be adopted by the General Assembly, additional resources in the amount of $197,800 would be required under section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. This would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017 to be approved by the Assembly at its seventieth session and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**